

I would also like to share with our community that despite Clarke County's substantial ability to pay for public education, we are woefully underfunded and have been for years. The fiscal and philosophical challenges we face today are the same ones that Eleanor Smalley, Dennis Kellison, and Wade Johnson also faced. I have talked to each of them, and each has shared that, in one way or another, not much has changed in the last 45 years. It is time to view the education of our children as an investment, not as a burden.

I believe that a community conversation about what is really important to the citizens of Clarke is long overdue. How we pay for and provide services to the young, the disabled, the elderly and everyone in between is essential for the future. And whether we like it or not, it should be a conversation about family wage jobs, affordable housing, economic development, and the creation of a sustainable future, both on and off the farm. It is time to educate, engage, and evolve like never before. This conversation is long overdue, and won't happen unless we talk about it.

I would also like to remind the residents of Berryville that the Nov. 5 School Board election is not about Mike Murphy. It is about electing a leader who will model the values of honesty, integrity, and respect and who will put the needs of children, all children, before the needs of the plutocracy.

As you can imagine, after serving for five-plus years in "the hot seat," the stories are many, and most of them are not only unbelievable, but true. Serving in a community where some consider the education of our children a burden has indeed been a challenge.

But despite the challenges, the anonymous bloggers, and those who hide behind their keyboards twisting the truth with every stroke, we have been more than successful. In fact, I would say we have been victorious. Our legacy is all around us, and they are 2,000 strong. They are the children of this community, and they deserve the best we have to offer.

In closing, let me remind our staff, and share with our children and community, the three most important tools in your tool box: your head, your heart, and your voice. Use your heads to make decisions that embrace the future of an exuberant Clarke County full of love, laughter, and life; use your hearts to remember what our legacy is really all about, and that is the children we love and nurture and send on to a better tomorrow; and use your voices, loud and vibrant, to stand up for what you believe. Above all else, believe in compassion, social justice, and the hope for a better tomorrow for our children. Not somewhere else, but here, in beautiful Clarke County.

Having rambled long enough, I would like to announce that after 36 years of doing what I love, I'm ready for a change. It is time to spend more time with my son, get to know my three stepdaughters a little bit better, plant that long-awaited garden, start a few more bee hives, build the boat I have always dreamed of, and finish reading the stack of books on my night stand. The future belongs to those who create it, and I have plans you can't even begin to imagine.

Retirement beckons, and Marie and I are ready to begin the next chapter in this wonderful life we share. We will do it together, as husband and wife, best friends, and partners.

As such, June 30, 2014, will be my last day as Superintendent of Clarke County Public Schools.

IN RECOGNITION OF EL DIARIO LA PRENSA'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 12, 2013

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, on this day I rise to recognize the 100th Anniversary of the Nation's oldest Spanish-language newspaper, *El Diario La Prensa*. This important periodical is the result of a historic merger between competing press companies, *El Diario de Nueva York* and *La Prensa* in 1963. *La Prensa* was founded in Brooklyn on October 12, 1913, and has since grown to serve approximately 300,000 daily readers across the country, many of them in my beloved District that includes the Washington Heights, El Barrio and The Bronx. The Spanish press is important, especially today when our U.S. Latino population has grown to nearly 53 million individuals. I congratulate *El Diario* for its dedication to providing indispensable information to the Latino community, as well as coverage on important issues that affect my dear constituents, such as immigration and health reform.

During its 100 years, *El Diario La Prensa* has served the several waves of Spanish-speaking immigrants who boldly ventured to the United States in search of a better life. New York City has traditionally served as the "Gateway to Freedom" for many Dominicans, Puerto Ricans, Mexicans and South Americans and this extraordinary company has provided an outlet for these distinct communities. Although this new era of digital communication and the recent economic crisis have brought unprecedented challenges for our local newspapers, *el El Diario La Prensa* will continue to play a dominant role in news media. Its popularity and reputation for providing quality news coverage has allowed the publication to withstand these blows and strengthen its circulation during the past few years.

El Diario La Prensa also serves to help assimilate Latinos into the greater realm of American culture. Important American milestones and tragedies were covered and printed in Spanish by *El Diario*, such as the tragic assassination of President John F. Kennedy, the moon landing, and the fall of the Berlin Wall. Moreover, it has documented Hispanic American breakthroughs, including the election of Herman Badillo as the first Puerto Rican to serve in the U.S. House of Representatives and the appointment of Sonia Sotomayor as the first Latina Supreme Court justice. *El Diario* has also displayed great initiative in preserving Hispanic heritage by installing photo exhibitions at Hostos College and the King Juan Carlos Center at New York University, as well as creating guides for New York City educators who wish to teach their students about Hispanic American culture.

Today, *El Diario* continues its vigilant watch by focusing on stories related to immigration politics and other issues that greatly influence the lives of Latino and non-Latino citizens. Despite having a limited number of staff and resources, *El Diario La Prensa* manages to distribute more than 42,000 copies daily in New York City; this allows many undocumented immigrants who rely on *El Diario* to stay abreast of developments that affect their struggle towards citizenship.

As we celebrate *El Diario*'s 100th year Anniversary, we are emboldened by its mission to

serve as a voice for America's underrepresented Latino community. We can further advance this goal by passing legislation on comprehensive immigration reform in the House of Representatives. The Spanish press serves a particularly important role in dispelling the rumors and misunderstandings often attached to progressive immigration reform legislation. That it is why I invite all members of our wonderful Congress to form strong partnerships with Spanish-language media in their respective communities.

Mr. Speaker, today I rise, and hope that my colleagues will join me in celebrating *El Diario La Prensa*'s century of outstanding service to our nation's Latino Community. In the meantime, I will continue to fight for all my constituents who strive to build a better life and fulfill of the American Dream. America's immigrants, for generations, have bolstered our economy, enriched our culture, and patriotically defended the United States. We are, by large, a nation of immigrants, and now is the time to pass comprehensive immigration reform legislation that helps grow our economy, prevents families from being separated, and creates a pathway to citizenship.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 12, 2013

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$17,151,627,959.50. We've added \$6,524,750,419,046.42 to our debt in 4 years. This is \$6.5 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

IN RECOGNITION OF C.F. MARTIN & COMPANY'S 180 YEARS AS A GUITAR CRAFTSMANSHIP WORLD LEADER

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 12, 2013

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate C.F. Martin & Co. of Nazareth, Pennsylvania on achieving 180 years as a guitar-maker on November 6. C.F. Martin & Co. has been as an icon of craftsmanship in America's rich musical heritage, a stalwart provider of specialty jobs and specialty exports, an inspiration as a legacy family business, a trend-setter in sustainable practices, and a supporter of its local community over its many years of operations.

Since 1833, C.F. Martin & Co. has been producing some of the most highly respected and innovative guitars in American history. Blending hand craftsmanship with state-of-the-art technology, Martin guitars were very difficult to match in tone, playability, quality, and enduring value. Embraced by artists in all corners of the globe, Martin guitars helped to define many musical genres including country, folk,